

TRIBUTARY



WATER EDUCATION AND CONSERVATION NEWSLETTER

SPRING 2003

Teachers Science Academy

By Rick Webster, Water Education Coordinator, DWRe

Water education is at the pinnacle of busy with water fairs, natural resource fairs and classroom presentations. We are also working hard to put the finishing touches on Elementary Teachers Science Academy.

The academy was developed to train teachers how to teach the new elementary science curriculum. Every teacher that attends will receive a resource book that aligned specifically to the science curriculum. They will also receive materials and resources to make these hands on activities more effective.

Currently there are 300 teachers from all over the state that have signed up. We expect the numbers to reach 450 by the start of the academy.

The academy will be held all summer long beginning June 10th. There will be 18 different locations to accommodate those in rural area.

For more information on the Teachers Science Academy, please visit:

<http://www.usoe.k12.ut.us/curr/science/ELSCIACAD02/CORE%20Flyer%204.pdf>

DWRe Reorganizes

By Molly Waters, Water Conservation Coordinator, DWRe



Eric Millis

Since the retirement of the Division of Water Resource's Planning Director, Lloyd Austin, in October of 2002 and that of Lyle Summers in January 2003,

there has been a lot of reorganization within DWRe.

Taking Lloyd's place is Eric Millis. Eric has worked for the DWRe since 1988. He began as an engineer in the Development Branch, and then moved to the Planning Branch to manage the River Basin Planning Section in 1997. In 2002 he was named Assistant Director with the responsibility over the Planning Branch, which includes the Division's water conservation and water education programs. He is a graduate of BYU and lives in Bountiful.

Also retiring this past January was Lyle Summers, Section chief of Water Education and Conservation, and also Chief Economist for DWRe. But don't fret- Lyle is still working with us part time, but only as an economist.



Eric Klotz

Eric Klotz has worked for the Division of Water Resources since 1984. He began as an engineer in the Planning Branch working in the River Basin Planning Section under Gene Bigler. In 1991 he began working as a senior

engineer in the Resources and Special Studies Section under Lloyd Austin. In 1992, Eric began work on the division's Municipal and Industrial Water Use and Supply Studies and gradually became the division's expert on water use within the state. Eric became the manager of the Resource Inventories and Special Studies Section in 2000. Recently under reorganization his section has assumed the duties of the division's water conservation and education efforts. He now manages the Water Conservation, Education and Use Section within the division's Planning Branch under Eric Millis. He is a 1983 graduate of Michigan Technological University and lives in North Salt Lake.

Calendar of Events

Water Conservation Classes, Workshops, Etc.

For general information regarding water conservation and education events, please visit www.conservewater.utah.gov.

Apr 1 – Sep 29

Water-Use Workshops

Targeted toward public agencies, institutions, government, commercial business, HOA's, etc., the workshop covers topics vital to maintaining your irrigation system and landscape reasonably in this time of drought and beyond. Workshops are held throughout the summer in various locations. For more information, please call Lori Johnson at 435-797-2255.

Apr 24 – Apr 25

Landscape Irrigation Auditor Certification Course

Certification course for the Irrigation Association's Certified Landscape Irrigation Auditor (CLIA) designation. Held at Jordan Valley Water Conservancy District. For more information, please call The Irrigation Association at 703-536-7080.

Apr 25 – Apr 26

Richfield Natural Resources Festival

A Friday and Saturday event for the whole family to learn about Utah's natural resources and the responsible use of those resources. For more information please contact Bert Hart at Bert_Hart@blm.gov.



Water-Wise Landscaping Tips

Analyze Your Soil. Using a soil probe or screwdriver, analyze the type of soil you have in your landscape. Determining your soil type will help you make informed decisions as to appropriate plants for your yard.

Plan It Before You Plant It. Be sure you are familiar with your landscape's many attributes. For instance, note which areas get more or less shade, which areas have reflected heat from the patio or house, and any other features you may encounter.

Use Appropriate Plants. Different plants have different requirements for optimum health. To use water most efficiently, choose plants that do not require much water, and are adapted to our arid climate.

Use Grass Wisely. Take into consideration the different activities that will go on in your yard. Use grass only in those areas that are used for recreation. A good rule of thumb is *"If the only time you walk on it is to mow it, you probably don't need it"*.

Water Wisely. Group plants according to their water needs. This will help you avoid over-watering some areas. Putting shrubs and perennials on separate zones apart from your lawn will help avoid severe damage to your plants due to excess water.

Just Mulch It. Use mulches to reduce evaporation from the soil and helps prevent weeds from growing in areas where water is needed for ornamental plants. Additionally, mulch covers the soil thereby reducing erosion and unsightly barren areas.

Keep It Up. While using these principles helps reduce maintenance time, it does not completely eliminate it. Use of good preventive maintenance will reduce the need for costly and time-consuming maintenance later on.